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PERSONNEL QUESTIONS: RESPECT FOR THE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES OF OFFICIALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

Note submitted by the Secretary-General on behalf of and with the approval of the members of the Administrative Committee on Coordination

INTRODUCTION

1. At its forty-seventh session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 47/28 of 25 November 1992 in which it took note with grave concern of the report submitted by the Secretary-General on behalf of the members of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) on the above subject (A/C.5/47/14). In that resolution, the General Assembly strongly deplored the unprecedented and still increasing number of fatalities that had occurred among United Nations personnel, including those engaged in peace-keeping operations, and also strongly affirmed that disregard for the privileges and immunities of officials had always constituted one of the main obstacles to the implementation of the missions and programmes assigned to the organizations of the United Nations system by Member States. The Assembly reminded host countries of their responsibility for the safety of peace-keeping and all United Nations personnel on their territory. The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to ensure the safety of United Nations personnel, as well as those engaged in peace-keeping and humanitarian operations, and to continue to submit, on behalf of ACC, reports concerning respect for the privileges and immunities of officials of the United Nations and specialized agencies and related organizations.

2. In the light of concern regarding the developments referred to in the Secretary-General's report, the General Assembly decided at its forty-seventh session that, despite its previous resolution providing that personnel questions should be considered on a biennial basis (resolution 46/220 of 20 December 1991), the Secretary-General should be requested to submit to its forty-eighth session updated information on the situation of United Nations

staff members with special regard to violations of privileges and immunities, taking into account its resolutions 45/240 of 21 December 1990 and 47/28 of 25 November 1992 (see decision 47/457 C of 8 April 1993).

3. The present note, containing updated information about respect for the privileges and immunities of officials as well as their security and safety is submitted in response to the aforementioned decision of the General Assembly. It is presented on behalf and with the approval of the members of ACC and is based upon the information provided by United Nations subsidiary organs and offices of missions as well as the specialized agencies and related organizations. A list of the organs and organizations that were requested to provide information is contained in annex III to the present note. The note covers the period from 1 July 1992 to 30 June 1993, with the exception of details regarding fatalities contained in paragraph 6 below, which contains the most up-to-date information available.

4. It should also be noted that, in the context of its examination of the report entitled "An agenda for peace" (A/47/277-S/24111), on 31 March 1993 the President of the Security Council made a statement on behalf of the Council (S/25493) addressing the question of the safety of United Nations forces and personnel deployed in connection with a Security Council mandate. In response to this statement, a report entitled "Security of United Nations operations" has been prepared (A/48/349-S/26358) for consideration by the Council and the General Assembly. The report outlines, inter alia, present security arrangements and makes a number of proposals regarding how the security of personnel of the United Nations system could be enhanced. The issues raised in that report apply, mutatis mutandis, to all categories of personnel associated with the work of the United Nations.

I. SECURITY AND SAFETY OF OFFICIALS

5. Developments in the last year have once again heightened concerns regarding the conditions under which staff members of the United Nations system are expected to operate and the level of risk that can be considered to be acceptable. In fulfilment of the responsibilities assigned to them by Member States, staff of the United Nations system are often called upon to perform their functions under extremely hazardous security conditions where decisions regarding their safety assume an immediacy not encountered in other situations. As a consequence, whereas in the past working under the banner of the United Nations has provided staff with safe passage and an unwritten guarantee of protection, this is no longer the case, and staff are often at risk simply by virtue of their employment with organizations of the United Nations system. In addition, actions by the United Nations in one part of the world can pose unexpected risks to staff in another part.

6. As a result of these developments, the acceptable safety threshold has been pushed to a level inconceivable in the past. Throughout the reporting period staff members have been attacked, injured, kidnapped, abused and harassed in the performance of their duties. Details regarding some of these incidents may be found in information provided by various organizations that is included in annex II. Of particular concern to the Secretary-General is the fact that, since the beginning of 1992, 30 staff members belonging to different

organizations have lost their lives. Eleven cases involving loss of life were brought to the attention of the General Assembly in the report of the Secretary-General to the forty-seventh session (A/C.5/47/14). The Secretary-General regrets to report that, as of the date of issuance of the present report, there have been a further 19 fatalities among staff members belonging to different organizations. The following are the names of the 19 staff members who lost their lives: Mr. Sean Devereux (United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)), a national of Ireland, killed in Somalia on 2 January 1993; Mr. Anthony Bullard (United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS)), a national of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, killed in Afghanistan on 1 February 1993; Mr. Abdul Hadi (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)), a national of Afghanistan, killed in Afghanistan on 1 February 1993; Mr. Zia Ul-Haq (UNCHS), a national of Afghanistan, killed in Afghanistan on 1 February 1993; Mr. Awad Ali Suradi (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)), a Palestinian, killed in the occupied Gaza Strip on 23 February 1993; Mr. Pedro Shivinda (World Food Programme (WFP)), a national of Angola, killed in Angola on 24 February 1993; Mr. Nestrendo (WFP), a national of Angola, killed in Angola on 24 February 1993; Mr. Y. S. Rao (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)), a national of India, killed in India on 12 March 1993; Mr. Yousif Al-Gharib (UNRWA), a Palestinian, killed in the occupied Gaza Strip on 18 March 1993; Mr. Mohamed Rouf (United Nations Transition Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC)), a national of Bangladesh, killed in Cambodia on 29 March 1993; Mr. Sophorn Choun (UNTAC), a national of Cambodia, killed in Cambodia on 3 April 1993; Mr. Sok Phiep Lay (UNTAC), a national of Cambodia, killed in Cambodia on 8 April 1993; Mr. Atsuhito Nakata (United Nations Volunteers), a national of Japan, killed in Cambodia on 8 April 1993; Mr. Khhough Ngin (UNTAC), a national of Cambodia, killed in Cambodia on 7 April 1993; Mr. Silva Cnicambi (WFP), a national of Angola, killed in Angola on 11 April 1993; Mr. Phim Shoka (UNTAC), a national of Cambodia, killed in Cambodia on 12 May 1993; Mr. Fayyad Farhad (UNRWA), a Palestinian, killed in Saida, Lebanon, on 21 July 1993; Mr. Boris Zerazic (UNHCR), a national of Bosnia and Herzegovina, killed in Bosnia and Herzegovina on 15 August 1993; and Mr. Michael Reitzel-Nielsen (United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)), a national of Denmark, killed in Kenya on 12 September 1993.

7. It must be recalled that, although the organizations of the United Nations system take all necessary precautions to ensure the security of staff, the primary responsibility for these matters rests with the host Governments or other governmental authorities. This responsibility flows from every Government's normal and inherent function of maintaining order and protecting persons within their jurisdiction. In the case of the United Nations, other international organizations and their officials, the Governments are considered to have a special responsibility under Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and respective agreements of Governments with individual organizations. It is recognized, however, that the United Nations is increasingly called upon to operate in areas where there is no Government or where the Government is unable to fulfil its commitments under the Charter.

II. ARREST AND DETENTION OF OFFICIALS

8. With the exception of the cases indicated in annex I and those related to the arrest and detention of UNRWA staff members, as of 30 June 1993 there were no pending cases of arrest and detention in which the privileges and immunities of staff members have been violated. Detailed information regarding the UNRWA staff, as provided by UNRWA, is included in annex II.

III. TAXATION OF OFFICIALS

9. The Secretary-General is pleased to report that the Permanent Observer Mission of Switzerland, in a note verbale dated 1 February 1993, informed the United Nations Office at Geneva that the authorities of the Canton of Vaud, basing themselves on the decision of 9 August 1978 of the Swiss Federal Council, declaring the application of the "taux global" incompatible with the host country agreements concluded by Switzerland with several international organizations, including the United Nations, had decided not to apply any longer the "taux global" to officials of international organizations residing in the territory of that Canton.

10. According to the information provided by the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), in spite of repeated representations by UNTSO to the Israeli Foreign Ministry, the Israeli authorities have continued to levy an exit tax at Rafah on UNTSO personnel. The same difficulties have been reported by UNRWA.

11. Detailed information about problems related to taxation of officials experienced by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is provided in annex II to the present note.

IV. RESTRICTIONS ON OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE TRAVEL OF OFFICIALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

12. The Secretary-General is pleased to report that, during the reporting period, there have been new positive developments with respect to the issue of removal of restrictions imposed by the authorities of the United States as host country on private travel of staff members who are nationals of particular countries.

13. On 24 September 1992, the United States Mission informed the Secretary-General by a note verbale that travel in the United States by staff members of the United Nations of Georgian nationality would not be restricted.

14. On 11 January 1993, a note verbale was received by the Secretary-General from the United States Mission stating that all United Nations staff members of Afghan nationality would enjoy unrestricted entry into and travel within the United States. According to the note, in practice this means that these staff members are no longer required to submit notification of travel beyond the 25 mile-radius of Columbus Circle in New York City.

15. In his replies to the aforementioned notes, the Secretary-General welcomed these positive decisions taken by the host country. At the same time, in view of the fact that travel restrictions continue to be in force with respect to staff members of certain other nationalities, the Secretary-General reiterated his well-known position of principle concerning the restrictive and discriminatory treatment of United Nation staff solely on the basis of their nationality.

16. Information concerning travel restrictions on UNRWA personnel is provided for in annex II to the present note.

Annex I

CONSOLIDATED LIST a/ OF STAFF MEMBERS UNDER ARREST AND DETENTION OR MISSING AND WITH RESPECT TO WHOM THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO EXERCISE FULLY THEIR RIGHT TO PROTECTION

Name	Agency	Place and date of incident
Mr. Abdala Daker Hayatli	UNRWA	Missing in the Syrian Arab Republic since 20 April 1980
Mr. Izzedine Hussein Abu Khreish	"	Detained in the Syrian Arab Republic since 11 September 1980
Mr. Mahmoud Hussein Ahmad	"	Missing in Lebanon since 22 March 1983. Reportedly detained by militias or unknown elements
Mr. Mohammad Ali Sabbah	"	Missing in Lebanon since 22 March 1983. Reportedly detained by militias or unknown elements
Mr. Daulat Mir	FAO	Detained on 28 August 1984 and subsequently conscripted into military service in Afghanistan
Mr. Alec Collett	UNRWA	Detained in Lebanon by militias or unknown elements since 25 March 1985
Mr. Mohammad Mustafa El-Hajj Ali	"	Missing in Lebanon since 28 November 1986. Reportedly detained by militias or unknown elements
Mr. Saleem Hairan	FAO	Detained and conscripted on 27 January 1988 into military service in Afghanistan
Mrs. Zainab Aw Jama Adan	WFP	Missing in Somalia since 4 June 1988
Mr. Mohammed Omar	FAO	Detained and conscripted on 17 May 1989 into military service in Afghanistan
Mr. Abdul Fattah	WFP	Abducted in Pakistan by unknown elements on 3 September 1989

Name	Agency	Place and date of incident
Mr. Ahmad Mohamed Ali	WFP	Detained in Somalia by the Somali National Security Service since 25 May 1990
Mr. Adel Ali Abu Ghali	UNRWA	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 25 August 1990
Mr. Abdalla Ismail Abu Shawareb	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 6 November 1990
Mr. Ghassan Musaed El Arabid	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 11 August 1991
Mr. Kassu Asgedon	WFP	Detained in Ethiopia since 4 September 1991
Mr. Mohammad Rajab El-Sa'afin	UNRWA	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 20 July 1992
Mr. A/Fattah Ismail Fayyad	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 22 September 1992
Mr. Mohammed Najib Madi	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 15 October 1992
Mr. Suliman Hmaid Mohd El Sofi	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 22 November 1992
Mr. Amin Ali El Khatib	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 23 November 1992
Mr. Zaher Ismail Ahmad	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 26 January 1993
Mr. Bassam Mohammad Musa	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 26 January 1993
Mr. Hasam Hassan Abu Jray	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 14 February 1993
Mr. Hasan Mohammad Hammad	"	Detained in the occupied West Bank since 15 February 1993
Mr. Yasin Musallam Abu Hatab	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 17 February 1993
Mr. As'ad Yousef As'ad Acad	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 18 February 1993

Name	Agency	Place and date of incident
Mr. Maher Salim El Toukhi	UNRWA	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 18 February 1993
Mr. Ibrahim Mohammed Madi	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 18 February 1993
Mr. Suliman A/Hadi Abu Rous	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 14 March 1993
Mr. Sami Abdalla Abu Hmaiseh	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 11 April 1993
Mr. Mohammad Sameh Massad	"	Detained in the occupied West Bank since 29 April 1993
Mr. Yousef Dawoud Shahin	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 2 May 1993
Mr. Ahmad Hasan Abu Houli	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 3 May 1993
Mr. Jaber Ali Wahdan	"	Detained in the occupied West Bank since 3 May 1993
Mr. Abdel Hakim A/Rabbu Abu Houli	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 6 May 1993
Mr. Asia Salim Yousef	"	Detained in the Syrian Arab Republic since 8 May 1993
Mr. Fawzi Mohammed Abu Armaneh	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 11 May 1993
Mr. Abdul Naser Fourani	"	Detained in the Syrian Arab Republic since 19 May 1993
Mr. Suliman Ibrahim Jouda	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 20 May 1993
Mr. Mohammed A/Rahman Ali	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 1 June 1993
Mr. Mahmoud Arafat El Khawaja	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 14 June 1993
Mr. Mahmoud Ghanem	"	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 25 June 1993

Name	Agency	Place and date of incident
Mr. Andualem Zeleke	ECA	Detained in Ethiopia since 25 June 1993
Mr. Jamal Atiya Tayeh	UNRWA	Detained in the occupied Gaza Strip since 28 June 1993

Notes

a/ The consolidated list contains in chronological order the names of staff members who remained under detention or missing as of 30 June 1993. The list, however, is not compiled to provide information on all cases of staff members who have been arrested, detained or missing in the past or on the cases where staff members have lost their lives in the performance of official duties.

Annex II

INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATIONS AND UNITED NATIONS SUBSIDIARY ORGANS AND OFFICES OR JOINT SUBSIDIARY ORGANS FOR INCLUSION IN THE PRESENT REPORT

A. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

1. During the reporting period there was a substantial increase, as compared with the previous year, in the number of staff members in the occupied territories arrested and held in detention without trial. The number of staff arrested and detained in Lebanon decreased, while the number in the Syrian Arab Republic increased from zero to three. The total number of staff so detained during the reporting period was 70. Of these, 40 were arrested and released without charge or trial, and two were charged, tried and sentenced. The remaining 28 were still in detention on 30 June 1993, as follows:

Occupied Gaza Strip	23
Occupied West Bank	3
Syrian Arab Republic	2
	28

2. Sixteen UNRWA staff, 11 from the Gaza Strip and 5 from the West Bank, were among more than 400 Palestinians deported to Lebanon in December 1992. This was the largest number of UNRWA staff members deported from the occupied territory in a single year since the Israeli occupation began in 1967. None of the UNRWA staff was among the small number of deportees who returned with Israeli permission in the subsequent months. UNRWA's protests to the Israeli authorities on these deportations were to no avail.

3. In no case has UNRWA received adequate and timely information on the reasons for the arrest and detention of staff members despite requests to the authorities. UNRWA has had access to 11 staff members from the West Bank and 19 from the Gaza Strip detained in prisons and detention centres in the occupied territories and Israel. The treatment of staff members in detention in the occupied territories and Israel was a major cause of concern to the Agency, with staff members upon their release complaining of ill-treatment, including beatings and psychological abuse. Despite efforts on the part of the Agency, it was unable to visit staff in detention elsewhere.

4. Difficulties related to the movement of locally recruited staff members in and out of the West Bank increased substantially. As reported in previous years, there were lengthy delays in the clearance by the Israeli authorities of staff members for travel on official duty. The freedom of movement of staff members was further impeded by the frequent imposition of curfews and the continued insistence of the Israeli authorities that locally recruited staff members be in possession of curfew permits. The Agency's efforts to obtain curfew permits for staff members in the Gaza Strip continued to be subjected to lengthy bureaucratic delays by the Israeli authorities. The arbitrary designation of closed military areas also constituted an impediment to the legitimate movement of staff members.

5. At the end of March 1993, the Israeli authorities announced the closure of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip from Israel and East Jerusalem. This affected approximately 400 staff members who were required to travel regularly from their homes in the West Bank to East Jerusalem where the UNRWA Field Office was located. Some practical measures were agreed upon with the Israeli authorities to reduce the impact of the closure on UNRWA operations. However, these measures only partly resolved the problems encountered.

6. UNRWA staff in the occupied territory continued to perform their duties in an atmosphere characterized by ongoing violence. This gave rise to considerable concern about the safety of staff, both area and international, who faced frequent harassment by the Israeli security forces and, from time to time, threats and attacks by some elements in the Palestinian population.

7. Two UNRWA staff members were killed by members of the Israeli security forces during the period under review. On 23 February 1993, a 28-year-old male nurse was shot in the back of the head while giving assistance to a wounded person in Rafah. On 18 March 1993, a 47-year-old male UNRWA teacher was shot and killed while standing outside a wake-house in Rafah. These were the first killings of Agency staff members by the security forces since the outbreak of the intifadah in December 1987.

8. One local staff member in the Gaza Strip was killed by persons unknown for alleged collaboration with the Israeli authorities.

B. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

1. The period under review - 1 July 1992 to 30 June 1993 - was one in which UNHCR continued to operate in some areas of the world where lack of understanding of, and respect for, its mandate, and the privileges and immunities of its officials has made it extremely difficult and sometimes very dangerous, to carry out the humanitarian tasks assigned to it.

2. The most serious incident involving UNHCR staff occurred on 1 February 1993 when Mr. R. Wanrooy was en route from Peshawar to Jalajabad by road. In addition to the locally recruited driver, Mr. Abdel Hadi, and Mr. Wanrooy, present in the UNHCR vehicle was Mr. A. Bullard of Habitat whose vehicle and driver were following, and a certain Mr. Van Hoeflaken.

3. Shortly after crossing into Afghanistan, the vehicles were apparently stopped by an ambush party which immediately opened fire, killing Mr. Bullard and Mr. Van Hoeflaken and seriously wounding Mr. Abdel Hadi - he died in hospital in Jalalabad some hours later. The driver of the Habitat vehicle was shot and killed while still in his vehicle.

4. Mr. Wanrooy escaped by running away from the car and, although the ambush party fired at him as he escaped, he was not hit and was fortunate to be picked up by a passing truck.

5. This ambush and killing was brought to the attention of the local authorities. It is not known what action was taken by them to find and punish the guilty parties and ensure there are no recurrences of such incidents.

6. In Cambodia there was an armed robbery at the UNHCR office in Sisophon in which $20,000 was taken.

7. There was an attack on a UNHCR convoy at Dushanbe, Tajikistan, on 27 January 1993.

8. In Somalia on 6 June, three UNHCR staff were held hostage and released after negotiations and payment.

9. In Bangui in the Central African Republic, in early May Sudanese students forced their way into the UNHCR office, attacked the staff and vandalized furniture and office equipment.

10. The privileges and immunities of UNHCR staff in the former Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) have been, and continue to be, seriously hampered by prolonged administrative formalities to process visas for UNHCR staff.

11. In Bosnia and Herzegovina in the period under review hardly a day passed without reports of incidents in which UNHCR staff, both international and local, were the subject of attack by both uniformed and "civilian" elements in their areas of operations.

12. There seems no doubt that, given the nature of its operations and the swelling tide of refugee populations, UNHCR will continue to be required to work in areas, and under conditions, where the security and safety of its staff, and respect for their privileges and immunities, will be the subject of serious concern. In such circumstances it is imperative that each incident, involving either the security/safety of the staff or respect for their privileges and immunities, must be fully investigated and vigorously protested to the authorities in the area and the country representatives at Headquarters in New York and Geneva.

13. It is fully realized that protesting each incident in such a way will be time-consuming and might have few tangible results. However, it is felt that doing less than this could result in a situation where the local authorities feel little or no pressure to protect UNHCR staff and the staff themselves get the impression that the organization is not doing everything in its power to ensure their protection.

C. United Nations Environment Programme

In the period 1 July 1992 to 30 June 1993 there has not been any arrest or detention of an official of the United Nations or specialized agencies by governmental authorities in Kenya. There have, however, been numerous cases of robberies, many at gunpoint, of vehicles belonging either to the United Nations Offices in Nairobi, or to international civil servants. For instance in the period January-June 1993, there were 22 such thefts of motor vehicles, only 3 of which were recovered, with several parts stolen. In perpetrating the aforesaid offences, the robbers threatened to shoot, stole money from the victims, inflicted minor assaults and in a few cases stripped them of their attire. In addition there was an invasion of the UNHCR office by an armed gang, which resulted in harassment of staff working at that time, and a theft of an official

vehicle. In each case the secretariat has addressed official communications to the Government of Kenya. Since the beginning of 1993, the Executive Director has twice written to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and held discussions with him once on the security situation in Kenya. In response the Government has promised to do everything in its power to protect United Nations officials and property in Kenya.

D. International Labour Organisation

1. The International Labour Office Bureau of Correspondence in Paris, which has been in existence since 1920, handles relations with the French Government and with management and labour organizations, as well as other tasks relating to technical cooperation and the sale of ILO publications. Its officials, while subject to specific rules, have the capacities and status of officials of the International Labour Office.

2. France has never ratified the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, or concluded a headquarters agreement in respect of the Bureau in Paris; however, up to now, the French Government has considered the salaries paid by the Office to its officials serving in Paris to be tax-exempt. This was officially confirmed as a permanent practice by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1957 and has never been formally questioned since then.

3. Nevertheless, since 1992, the various tax centres within whose jurisdiction officials of the Bureau in Paris reside have been asking them to declare the salary amounts which the Office has paid to them over the past three years. Although the attention of the tax administration has been drawn on several occasions to the practice and commitments mentioned above and to the obligations which France assumed under article 40 of the ILO Constitution, the tax centres concerned have been issuing final demands for the payment of the taxes in question.

4. It would appear that the source of these administrative actions is an internal circular emanating from the Directorate-General of Taxes, dated 1 July 1988 (instruction A B.3 88), which gives a list of international organizations enjoying tax privileges and immunities in France. ILO, like other specialized agencies which have their headquarters outside France, is not included in that list. As mentioned above, the Government, to which the question was referred by the Permanent Mission of France at Geneva and the Ministry of Labour, has not yet adopted an official position, as such, regarding the continuation of the tax exemption for ILO officials serving in Paris. It is to be hoped, therefore, that a favourable decision will be taken on this question at the governmental level before any enforcement measures are applied to the collection of taxes by the tax centres, with the broader problems which that would entail.

E. United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Vienna, Austria

1. On 25 June 1992, in Vienna, Austria, a UNIDO consultant, Mr. Georg Hans Huetter, an Austrian national, was arrested for alleged involvement in fraudulent conduct of his former employer. Mr. Huetter had the legal status of an expert on mission under the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, which, in accordance with article 21 of UNIDO's Constitution, is applicable to UNIDO. When arrested, Mr. Huetter informed the Austrian authorities of his legal status. The Austrian authorities never officially informed UNIDO of the arrest and detention of Mr. Huetter and it was not until three months later that UNIDO was informed by the lawyer retained by Mr. Huetter. On 28 September 1992 the UNIDO secretariat formally confirmed Mr. Huetter's status to the Austrian Foreign Ministry and objected to his arrest and detention as constituting an infringement of that status. These objections were reiterated in subsequent communications. Mr. Huetter remains in custody. However, on 22 February 1993 the Foreign Ministry of Austria replied to the secretariat's objections by stating that it, and other competent authorities, would have taken Mr. Huetter's status as an expert on mission with UNIDO into account, if that status had been known to them.

Poland

2. On 24 February 1993, UNIDO requested the Government of Poland to recognize that an expert holding an appointment under the 200 series staff rules of UNIDO is exempt from income tax on salary paid by UNIDO pursuant to the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations. This request was made because an expert with Polish citizenship, who had held such an appointment, had not been granted income tax exemption by the Polish authorities.

Sudan

3. In the Sudan, substantial fees are imposed on Sudanese officials upon the renewal of their passport, including a national compulsory contribution and fees for educational and information service, in addition to the usual fees attached to the renewal of Sudanese passports.

F. United Nations/FAO/World Food Programme

1. Afghanistan. In January 1993, Mr. M. T. Khalik, WFP National Officer in Kabul, Afghanistan, was detained by the security forces on the accusation of misusing the United Nations communication system and passing coordinates to opposition troops. Following a strong intervention from the United Nations Security Coordinator (Mr. Lockwood), Mr. Khalil was released on 30 January 1993.

2. Angola. WFP staff got caught in the crossfire between warring factions with following results:

(a) WFP office facilities in Huambo took a direct rocket hit early February 1993 and burned to the ground. The remains of three persons were found in the wreckage;

(b) In September 1992 a WFP film crew was taken hostage in an assembly camp of government troops in Cartara Village 29 kilometres from Guilala in Kwanza Norte province in Angola. After protracted negotiations, they were rescued by WFP helicopter;

(c) The following WFP staff were killed/missing during the period under review: Mr. Pedro Shivinda, acting Base Manager in Huambo, and Mr. Nestrendo, flight engineer. Mr. Narcisso Paulo Sinao, is missing. An office guard employed on a casual labour basis was killed in Luena;

(d) On 26 April 1993 a WFP chartered plane (Antonov 12) was brought down near Luena, killing one crew member, Mr. Nestrenko (see above) and wounding two others, Mr. Pedro Pascual and Captain Andre Orlov.

3. Sudan:

(a) On 28 March 1992, a WFP Food Aid Monitor, Mr. Francois Darcq, was caught in the middle of fighting in Southern Sudan between Garang and Ryak factions of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA). He was stripped of his clothes and personal belongings and threatened with his life. He managed to escape in the bush and was brought back to Nairobi in severe shock;

(b) From 4 to 30 December 1992, two WFP employees, Mr. Guenther Kriessl (Food Aid Monitor) and Mr. Fred Sembogo (Driver/Mechanic), were held captive by the SPLA/Garang Faction in Southern Sudan. After intervention by the United Nations they were released without harm or explanation.

4. Côte d'Ivoire. On 15 March 1993 the WFP Coordinator for Emergency operations relating to assistance for Liberian refugees in Côte d'Ivoire, Mr. Sidile Kelefa (United Nations Volunteers), was kidnapped by armed aggressors, who released him afterwards taking with them the WFP vehicle.

5. Somalia. WFP staff employed in Somalia are under continuous risk in view of the security situation prevailing in this country.

6. Mozambique. On 30 June 1993 a WFP food convoy hit a mine in Sofala, injuring the driver and assistant. Further news is awaited.

Annex III

LIST OF UNITED NATIONS SUBSIDIARY ORGANS, OFFICES AND MISSIONS, SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS THAT WERE REQUESTED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION FOR THE PRESENT REPORT

ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMO	International Maritime Organization
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDOF	United Nations Disengagement Observer Force
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFICYP	United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund

UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFIL	United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UNMOGIP	United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Work Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UNTSO	United Nations Truce Supervision Organization
UNU	United Nations University
UPU	Universal Postal Union
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
	World Bank